GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6876
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2002
POLLUTING MINES
SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many mine owners are spreading a lot of pollution in violation of the norms prescribed by his Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against each of the offenders during the last three years ?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a),(b)&(c) Under the Environment(Protection) Act, standards and guidelines for coal mining operations have been notified which are enforced by the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees through their consent mechanism.Further, as per the Environment Impact Assessment(EIA) Notification, every miningproject has to acquire environmental clearance from the Ministry. The Ministry while according environmental clearance to a mining project prescribe specific conditions for safeguarding the environment. The conditions are regularly monitored by the Regional Offices of the Ministry and the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees. In case of any violation from the prescribed conditions, necessary action as per the provisions of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment(Protection) Act, 1986is taken by the State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees.